

wild I am not prepared to say. One Japanese authority asserts that it grows all over Japan, a statement I am unable to verify. A specimen in the botanical garden at Tokyo is about 12 feet high, with a very dense, spreading, round head and short trunk. It is very ornamental. The fruit when fully ripe is pleasantly acidulated and juicy. It is apparently made up of a large number of densely crowded sections, quite distinct from each other, but radiating from a small central stone or hard seed. On this specimen the fruit was red, but there are varieties with fruits of different colors. A white-fruited kind, having comparatively large fruit, is said to be of very excellent quality. The tree is commonly propagated by seed, but the Japanese assert that it can also be grafted on the mulberry. It is planted by them partly for fruit and partly for ornament, but not largely for either purpose. The bark is an important dye-stuff. (Adapted from *The American Garden*, vol. 12, p. 82.)

### 48505 and 48506.

From Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Mr. George Thorncroft, Winter Bros., Barberton. Received November 7, 1919.

#### 48505. *ALOE PRETORIENSIS* Pole Evans. Liliaceæ.

*Aloe pretoriensis* is found commonly on many of the kopjes around Pretoria. It grows plentifully on the northern slopes of Mentjes Kop, and extends from here in an easterly and westerly direction on the range of hills composed of the Daasport quartzite; it is also found in the Spekboom Valley near Lydenburg, at Barberton, and along the foot of the Lebombo Range of mountains.

The most distinctive feature of the plant is its tall branched inflorescence, the racemes of which are densely clustered with brightly colored flowers; so conspicuous are they that they form a bright-scarlet patch of color in the landscape and are visible from a considerable distance. The flowers contain a quantity of honey and consequently attract large numbers of brilliant sunbirds. The dense rosettes of tapering leaves, usually withered at the tips, have frequently a very characteristic red hue about them and spring from a stoutish stem 4 to 5 inches in diameter. The stem is dark brown to black in color, extremely rough, and clothed throughout its entire length by the remains of withered leafstalks. At first sight this *Aloe* certainly resembles *A. lineata* in general habit, but on closer examination it is found that the leaves are more narrowly linear-lanceolate than those of *Aloe lineata*. (Adapted from *The Gardeners' Chronicle*, vol. 56, 3d ser., p. 105.)

#### 48506. *CYRTANTHUS THORNCROFTII* C. H. Wright. Amaryllidaceæ.

An African bulbous plant with two long narrow leaves and bearing a short 2-flowered scape. The small light-red flowers are nearly an inch across. (Adapted from *Kew Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information*, p. 421, 1909.)

### 48507. *CRATAEGUS MEXICANA* Moc. and Sesse. Malaceæ.

From Guadalajara, Mexico. Presented by Mr. F. S. Furnivall, through Mr. Andrew J. McConnico, American consul. Received November 8, 1919.

"White thorn, commonly known as the 'manzanilla' or 'tejecote,' is indigenous to the mountain sections of Mexico and Guatemala; the fruit (a little apple about the size of the American crab apple) is insipid in the raw state but very valuable for making jelly; the tree or shrub may be used with marked success as a stock in budding and grafting apples and pears." (*Furnivall*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 46481.